(b) if so, the site selected for the purpose; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the project?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (*SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO*): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The site selected is in Balasore district of Orissa.

(c) The proposal is being finalised. Action is in hand to obtain necessary sanction and progress the project.

Rural Electrification Corporation

129. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rural Electrification Corporation has launched any scheme to provide electricity in the remote areas;

(b) whether the Corporation has implemented some hydel projects for that purpose;

(c) if so, the amount spent by the Corporation in the Sixth Plan for that purpose; and

(d) the details of State-wise works done by the Corporation in the Sixth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) and (b) The Rural Electrification Corporation have formulated a proposal for financing Mini/Micro Hydel Projects for supplying electricity in far-flung and remote areas. The proposal has not yet been finalized and its implementation would depend on the availability of resources in the Seventh Plan.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Rural Health Guide Scheme in North-Eastern Region

130. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of States and Union Territories in the North Eastern Region where Rural Health Guide Scheme has been in operation;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have not been properly supervising the scheme in the above States and Union Territories; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The Scheme is being implemented in the States/Union Territories of Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram in North Eastern Region.

(b) No, Sir. The Rural Health Guide Scheme is implemented through the State Governments who send regular reports/returns to the Central Government.

(c) Question does not arise.

Provision of irrigation facilities to the hilly areas of Meghalaya

131. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to provide irrigation facilities to the hilly areas of Meghalaya with expert technical assistance as well as obtaining financial aid from any foreign agency for the purpose; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) The Government of Meghalaya have proposed to take up Rongai Valley Irrigation Scheme in the VII Five Year Plan to provide irigation fatilities to an area of 4760 hectares in Garo Hills District. The State Government has sought the Expert assistance of Central Water Commission for carrying out the necessary detailed field investigations and for collection of requisite hydrological data for firming up the proposals. External financial assistance is not envisaged for this scheme.

Power projects in the North-Eastern Region

132. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that power projects in the North Eastern Region need immediate renovation and modernisation for generating increased power; and

(b) whether Government propose to take up this work during the Seventh Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) and (b) The Assam State Electricity Board had submitted a project report for the renovation and modernisation of the Namrup Thermal Power Station. The Central Electricity Authority has accorded techno-economic approval to the Scheme in March, 1985. No other renovation and modernisation scheme from the North-Eastern region has been received in the Central Electricity Authority.

Request of Rajasthan Government for generating power in the joint sector

133. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rajasthan Government has sought the permission of the Central Government to generate power in the joint sector;

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the projects forwarded to the Centre for clearance;

(c) the stage at which the matter stands at present; and

(d) whether the Rajasthan Government has also asked for raising the capacity of the gas-based power plant to be put at Kotah to 500 MW and if so, the Central Government's decision in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) to (c) The Rajasthan State Electricity Board have forwarded to the Central Electricity Authority a project report for installing 2x210 MW capacity at Dholpur, at a revised estimated cost of Rs. 648.11 crores. Subsequently, the State Government suggested implementation of the project in the joint sector with I.D.B.I. assistance. It has been suggested to the State Government that the matter regarding availability of IDBI assistance may be pursued with the Ministry of Finance. The CEA can appraise the project report for techno-economic approval after necessary inputs such as availability of coal and water and environmental clearance etc. have been tied up.

(d) The Rajasthan Government have also suggested that the capacity of the proposed gas based thermal plant in the State may be raised to 500 MW. It has been intimated to the State Government that the capacity of the power station will be gover-